

in many rural communities. Mr. Dan Drain, appearing before the committee in support of basically the Simon amendment, when we asked him what it would cost the local subdivisions of government off hand he said somewhere between 15 and 20 million dollars. I didn't ask him if that was annual, once around the horn, or whatever kind of cost it was. In any case he said 15-20 million dollars to be borne by the local subdivisions of government. Now, gentlemen we spent this morning discussing LB 131, a bill to place a limit upon the amount of money that local subdivisions can spend. We, by ridiculous amendment here offered by Senator Simon, well intended but ridiculous; uninformed but ridiculous,intend to require the local subdivisions to go out and spend 15-20 million dollars. On the one hand we say nope, we are going to put the lid on you folks, you are wild, you are irresponsible, you can't be depended upon, and on the other hand we say but, we are going to send one of our horsemen out there to insist upon you handling your solid waste exactly the way we tell you to, and if you don't do it we are not going to license your dump. I ask you how inconsistent can you be? If the problem is apparent, if the problem is a real one to Bellevue, Nebraska or to Bruno or to Bruning or to Milligan or any other small community. All they need to do is request assistance from the Department of Environmental Control and they will provide that assistance. They can do it today on a voluntary basis. But, under Senator Simon's amendment you are giving the responsibility, the authority but no money to the department to go out and enforce rules and regulations for licensure, which we are not willing or able to fund. Which the cities and the counties can't afford to fund. We are arguing about a minor bill here for return of sales and income tax to counties to replace the lost revenue if we happen to exempt personal property. We turn right around and burden those same communities, the same counties with additional expense. Now, if someone complains to the Department of Environmental Control there are steps which can be taken. There has even been a threat that the federal government is going to come out and worry about how Bellwood, Nebraska gets rid of their solid waste. Can you imagine? There is more solid waste flowing down the Potomac River than has ever been deposited in Butler County on an hour by hour basis and they can't clean that up. But, the federal government says we are going to worry about solid waste in Nebraska. I say nuts. They can't take care of what they have got. I say this entire amendment has got to be a joke as far as Senator Simon is concerned, and he doesn't ordinarily joke around with 15-20 million dollars. But, it has to be. He can not be serious about this. It is not needed, it is uncalled for, and it is kind of like giving a guy that has got diarrhea an enema. There is no end to it. I guess, scratch that Mr. President. In any case..

PRESIDENT: I'm not going to scratch it.

SENATOR SCHMIT: That will come later. In any case, the point I want to make is this. We run this thing by four or five times. The Department has tried to slide in under, slip it on. It is kind of like a sliver, it goes in easy and comes out hard. Many times, we have rejected, rejected, rejected it every time and I am going to tell you this one more thing. I created the Department of Environmental Control with a bill of mine in 1971 and if they intend to continue to persist to be so insistent upon this kind of activity, I would be willing to wipe them out. To heck with it. Take care of the job that they have got. Take care of